

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

GB2004/002524

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B5/103 A61B19/00 G01L5/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B G01L B25J G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 43 32 580 A (DEUTSCHE AEROSPACE) 30 March 1995 (1995-03-30)	1-10,12, 13, 15-23, 25-39
Y	column 1, line 1 - column 2, line 4; figures 1,2,5,7 column 2, line 23 - column 4, line 46	11,14, 15,24
X	DE 195 33 756 A (FRAUNHOFER GES FORSCHUNG) 13 March 1997 (1997-03-13)	1,2,5-7, 9-15,24, 31-35, 37,38
Y	column 1, line 3 - column 3, line 65; figures 1-3	11,14, 15,24
A	column 4, line 12 - column 5, line 9	16-23, 25,30,39
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

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O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

24/09/2004

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 91/03705 A (NAT RES DEV) 21 March 1991 (1991-03-21) page 3, line 2 - page 5, line 3; figures 1-5	1,2, 8-10,12, 13, 16-21, 33,35,38
X	US 6 188 331 B1 (ZEE FULCO ET AL) 13 February 2001 (2001-02-13)	1,2,7,9, 10,13, 16,24, 31-35
A	column 1, line 40 - column 2, line 29; figures 1-4 column 2, line 51 - column 3, line 53	12,17-22
X	DE 42 43 832 A (DAIMLER BENZ AG) 30 June 1994 (1994-06-30)	1,2,5, 7-10,12, 13,16, 24-26, 31, 33-36,39
A	column 1, line 5 - column 3, line 7; figures 1-3	17-23, 27-30, 37,38
A	WO 00/13591 A (UNIV AMERICA CATHOLIC ; WANG Y JOSEPH (US); FREEDMAN MATTHEW T (US)) 16 March 2000 (2000-03-16) column 1, line 29 - column 2, line 3; figures 1-4 column 2, line 60 - column 3, line 64 column 4, line 19 - column 5, line 19	1,3,4, 20-22, 25-33, 36-39
A	US 2002/143275 A1 (SARVAZYAN ARMEN P ET AL) 3 October 2002 (2002-10-03) paragraph '0010! - paragraph '0011!; figures 1-3,6,8 paragraph '0027! - paragraph '0041! paragraph '0047! - paragraph '0049!	1,2, 9-21,25, 31-35, 37-39

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